

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 9, 11, and 12 are in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 1, 2, and 9, have been amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 2,823,245 (Solow). Claims 1 to 4, 9, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Solow and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,415,700 (Arthur). Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Solow in view of JP 55-68681 (JP '681). Claims 1, 2, 4 to 7, 9, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Solow in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0055894 (Iwasaki). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during the personal interview conducted on February 3, 2005. During the interview, the Examiner tentatively agreed that the amendments made herein would overcome the outstanding rejections.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Damond E. Vadnais", is written over a horizontal line.

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